Visitors Guide to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing



The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) was established in 1862 and is responsible for the design, engraving, and printing of all United States currency. A world leader in printing technology, the BEP also produces secure documents for other federal government agencies. This tour includes an introductory film and a gallery tour overlooking the production process. It features the various steps of currency production, beginning with large, blank sheets of paper, and ending with wallet-ready bills. The visitor's center includes exhibits and currency products for sale.

As you prepare for this informative tour, please read over the following guidelines and information to help make this tour an enjoyable part of your experience in Washington, DC.



When you must request this tour by: At least two weeks in advance of visit during peak season (April through July). Other months of the year are more flexible.



What You Need to Have with You upon Arriving for your Tour: Photo ID, confirmation number, and printed copies of any confirmation pages emailed to you by my office. Your confirmation number will be given to you in a notice emailed to you from my office.



Location: 14th and C Streets SW, Washington, DC 20228

Exact Location: Once you arrive, go through the main doors on 14thStreet SW, bypass the public line and give your confirmation number to the BEP employee waiting at those doors. You will then be directed and escorted accordingly.



Nearest Metro:

Smithsonian Station-Blue/Orange Line, using the Independence Avenue exit (12th Street & Independence Avenue SW)



Duration: 45 Minutes.



Prohibited/Accepted Items: Below is a list of prohibited and accepted items for this tour. Visitors must pass through a metal detector and belongings will be screened before entering the building. Prohibited items will be confiscated.

Prohibited Items:

- Luggage or large suitcases
- Aerosol sprays
- Any pointed objects such as knitting needles
- Scissors, sharp metal nail files
- Sharp objects such as knives
- Razorblades
- Box cutters
- Guns
- Ammunition
- Fireworks
- Electric stun guns
- Mace or martial arts weapons/devices

Accepted Items:

- Cameras (with exception to the tour gallery)
- Water
- Backpacks
- Purses
- Extra Shoes
- Jackets
- Keys
- Wallets
- Umbrellas

Strollers (though once in the facility they will be stored in a separate area)



Dining Options: None are available at the BEP building, but there are several in the surrounding area.



Gift Shop: The tour ends on the main level at the gift shop, which is open from 9:00am-5:00pm.



Accessibility: This tour is accessible to people with mobility impairments.

Please visit http://moneyfactory.gov/tours/washingtondctours.html for more information, or call my main office at (202) 224-2651.